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ORIGINAL

- 99-25

**From:** mike hickey <mazey@nwlinc.com>  
**To:** K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 12, 1999 8:46 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED

JUL 22 1999

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
Federal Commuent-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello David. After you met with our friend Bo in Port Townsend we never heard from you again. We were wondering if you could either drop the photo off at Bo's house or return it to us in the mail. We never did find anything out about the plaque but we really appreciate the time you spent on this. My mailing address is 1927 Brook Ave S.W., Seattle, WA for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices,

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cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.

In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition ([mec@tao.ca](mailto:mec@tao.ca)), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.
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3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.
5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property

should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.

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12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

MEC Honorary Chair:  
Robert W. McChesney, Madison

Steering Committee:  
Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia  
Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco  
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
Alan Korn, San Francisco  
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Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press  
Juliet Schor--Harvard University  
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=

name=Gordon C. Delgaty  
street=1927 Brook Ave. S.W.  
city=Seattle  
state=WA  
zip=98126  
=Send to FCC

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ORIGINAL RECEIVED

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "johnthompson@worldnet.att.net"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:26 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 22 1999

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25. Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

>>> "John Thompson" <johnthompson@worldnet.att.net> 07/09 3:07 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
 Commissioner Michael Powell  
 Commissioner Susan Ness  
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554  
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,  
 Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.  
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

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Peter Franck, San Francisco

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Alan Korn, San Francisco  
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
name=John P. Thompson  
street=902 2nd St. N. Apt. 1  
city=Jacksonville Beach  
state=FL  
zip=32250-7161  
=Send to FCC



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DK-99-25

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "ictv@vcn.bc.ca"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> <ictv@vcn.bc.ca> 07/13 12:40 PM >>>

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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
name=brian peterson  
street=2092 east 13th ave  
city=vancouver  
state=bc  
zip=v6a2n9  
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILE

DK-99-25

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

From: Mary Riddick  
 To: "juergensk@metro.dst.or.us"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
 Date: Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:54 PM  
 Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 22 1999

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Office of Secretary

>>> "Kathleen Juergens" <juergensk@metro.dst.or.us> 07/13 12:29 PM >>>

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
 Commissioner Michael Powell  
 Commissioner Susan Ness  
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
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Signed,

MEC Honorary Chair:  
Robert W. McChesney, Madison

The airwaves belong to the people, not the corporations! I strongly urge you to allow microradio, to give the people a meaningful voice in our media. I strongly urge you to follow the recommendations in the MEC letter.

Kathleen A. Juergens  
3229 NE 7th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97212



ORIGINAL EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DK-9925

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "futrelle@brappo.isdn.uiuc.edu"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Re: InSupportoftheMECLetteronMMDocketNo.99-25

RECEIVED

JUL 22 1999

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of Secretary

>>> Joe Futrelle <futrelle@brappo.isdn.uiuc.edu> 07/13 11:33 AM >>>

=

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
 Commissioner Michael Powell  
 Commissioner Susan Ness  
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554  
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,  
 Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.  
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the

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Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

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In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.

In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition ([mec@tao.ca](mailto:mec@tao.ca)), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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Steering Committee:  
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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia

Peter Franck, San Francisco  
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
Alan Korn, San Francisco  
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana  
Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University  
Nancy Kranich--Librarian  
Ron Daniels--Executive Director,Center for Constitutional Rights  
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement  
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting  
Mark Crispin Miller--New York University  
Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio  
David Barsamian--Director, Alternative Radio  
Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program  
Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters)  
Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV  
Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley  
Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education  
Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored  
Ellen Braune--Publicist  
Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology  
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press  
Juliet Schor--Harvard University  
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=

name=  
Joseph Futrelle

street=  
1205 S. Race

city=  
Urbana

state=  
IL

zip=  
61801

=  
Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

JUL 22 1999

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "ifoufo@geocities.com"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 3:49 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of Secretary

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> "j. alfred prufrock" <ifoufo@geocities.com> 07/13 3:30 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
 Commissioner Michael Powell  
 Commissioner Susan Ness  
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554  
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,  
 Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.  
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco

Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
Alan Korn, San Francisco  
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana  
Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University  
Nancy Kranich--Librarian  
Ron Daniels--Executive Director, Center for Constitutional Rights  
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement  
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting  
Mark Crispin Miller--New York University  
Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio  
David Barsamian--Director, Alternative Radio  
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Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters)  
Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV  
Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley  
Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education  
Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored  
Ellen Braune--Publicist  
Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology  
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press  
Juliet Schor--Harvard University  
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=I favor microradio as the corporations that are given the lion's share of our scarce and public airwaves do not serve the public interest in nearly the way spontaneous grassroots efforts such as microradio do. I'm not interested in a "free" press where access to media is purchased by the wealthy to the exclusion of the majority of people. If we are to pledge our allegiance to a common good, I believe that ideal would not be represented by a claim of eminent domain over public speech. We must not be abridged.

name=Chris Calloway  
street=810 Berkeley Street  
city=Durham  
state=NC  
zip=27705  
=Send to FCC



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JUL 22 1999

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "MKline@elanpharma.com"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:41 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> "Kline, Michael" <MKline@elanpharma.com> 07/09 9:02 PM >>>  
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for low-power microradio.

Thank You,

Michael Kline  
720 2nd Ave # 203  
San Francisco, CA 94118

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JUL 22 1999

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "sydes@its.caltech.edu"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:46 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> Jason Sydes <sydes@its.caltech.edu> 07/09 8:33 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554  
cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,  
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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco  
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
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Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana  
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Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University  
Nancy Kranich--Librarian  
Ron Daniels--Executive Director, Center for Constitutional Rights  
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement  
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Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting  
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Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio  
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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=

name=Jason Sydes  
street=5610 S Soto St  
city=Huntington Park  
state=CA  
zip=90255  
=Send to FCC